Atty Dkt No. GRAZ 0101 PUSA

S/N: 10/599,206 Reply to Office Action of October 26, 2010

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The bag assembly according to claim 20 A bag assembly designed to be used in places that accumulate grit and dirt, the bag assembly comprising:

a set of bags including at least two internal bags within an external bag, each bag having a seam extending transversely across a lower end of the bag, the seam forming at least one projection extending outwardly from the lower end of the bag; and wherein each bag is orthogonally nested relative to the adjacent bag or bags, thereby resulting in an offset of the projections, wherein a multilayered sidewall is formed by the nesting of the bags; and

at least one bushing having a tubular shape for projecting through the multilayered sidewall and for coupling the set of bags to a container, the bushing having:

an internal fitting projecting outwardly through the external bag and being received by an inlet of the container for forming a seal, the internal fitting further extending through the inlet for connecting to an external tube, and

an external fitting opposite the internal fitting, the external fitting projecting inwardly through the at least two internal bags for connecting to an internal tube;

wherein the at least one bushing is configured to allow an innermost internal bag and any collected grit and dirt to be selectively decoupled from the external fitting and removed from the bag assembly without displacing the adjacent bag, which can be further used and without removing the bushing from the inlet or disrupting the seal.

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13. (Previously Presented) The bag assembly according to claim 12, wherein the bag assembly being positioned within a container such that the sidewall extends out of and folds over a circumferential edge of the container for supporting the bag assembly.

14-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The bag assembly according to claim 21[[17]], wherein the at least one bushing further comprises an external region for fitting in the respective lateral opening of the internal bags and promoting sealing between the internal bags to limit the flow of liquid from an innermost bag to any of the subsequent internal bags, the external region having a lip extending radially from the external fitting for retaining the internal bags to the bushing.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The bag assembly according to claim 21[[17]] further comprising:

a seam extending transversely across a lower end of each bag of the set of bags, the seam forming at least one projection extending outwardly from the lower end of the bag;

wherein each bag is nested at an offset orientation relative to the adjacent bag or bags, thereby resulting in an offset of the projections to allow the [[an]] innermost internal bag and any collected grit and dirt to be selectively removed from the bag assembly without displacing the adjacent bag, which can be further used.

21. (Previously Presented) A bag assembly designed to be used in places that accumulate grit and dirt, the bag assembly comprising:

a set of bags including at least two internal bags within an external bag, the set of bags sized for lining a container;

at least one bushing projecting through a lateral opening of the bags for facilitating fluid communication through the bushing, the bushing being received by an inlet of the container for forming a seal, the at least one bushing having an elongate plastic tube with a longitudinal length, a diameter and a wall thickness, the tube provided with:

an internal fitting projecting outwardly along the length of the tube and through the lateral opening of the external bag, the internal fitting further extending through the container to connect to an external tube; and

an external fitting projecting inwardly from the internal fitting, along the length of the tube and through the at least two internal bags to connect to an internal tube, the external fitting having a diameter that is greater than the diameter of the internal fitting, such that a step is formed at an interface between internal fitting and the external fitting;

a portion of the external bag extending outwardly from the circumference of the lateral opening and disposed over the outer diameter of the internal fitting;

a portion of the internal bags extending inwardly from the circumference of the lateral openings and disposed over the outer diameter of the external fitting; and

a ring positioned axially adjacent to the step to encircle the circumference of the internal fitting and compressing the extended portion of the external bag there between for securing the bushing to the external bag;

wherein the bushing is configured for allowing an innermost internal bag and any collected grit and dirt therein to be selectively removed from the bag assembly while the bushing remains connected to the container.

22-23. (Cancelled)